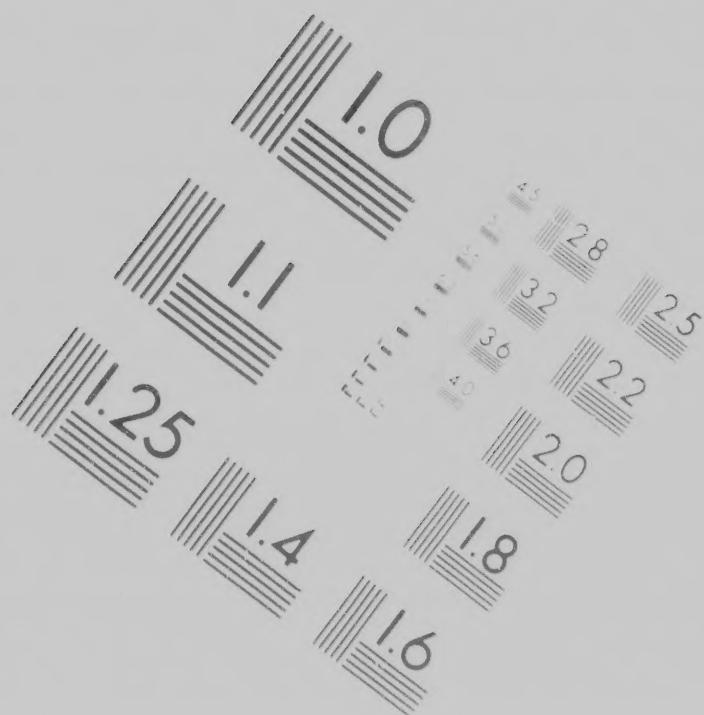




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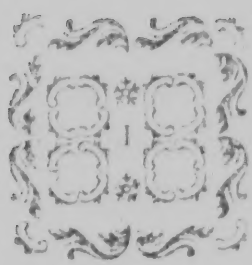
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To the candid P U



N Hartford and New-Haven papers is published a Piece, sign'd *Mary*, address'd to the *Public*; requesting a meeting of the inhabitants of the towns in the colony, to choose members to attend a meeting at Middletown, the last Wednesday of March instant, to consult measures proper to be pursued to evade the evils which the author apprehends will attend the measures adopted by the General Assembly, respecting the western lands.

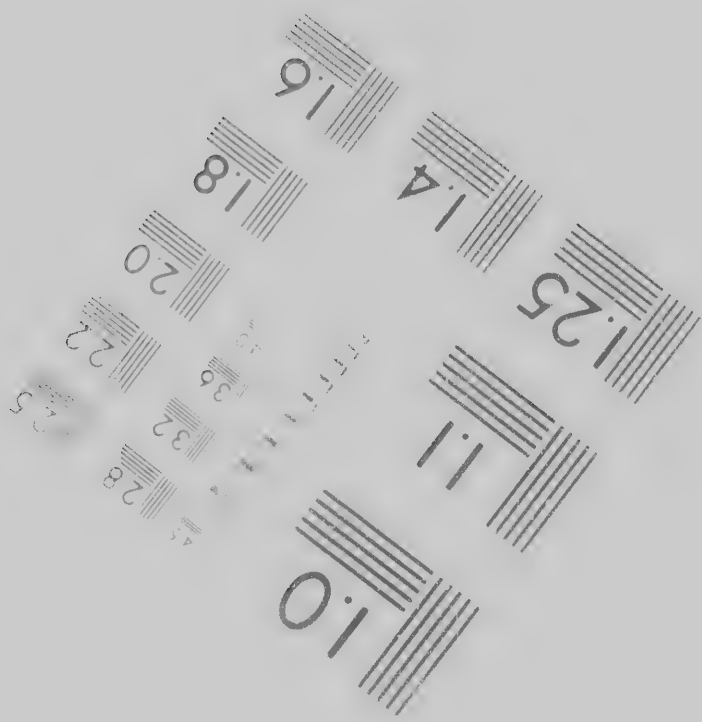
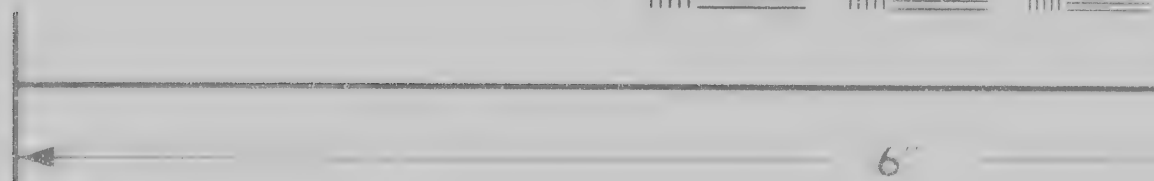
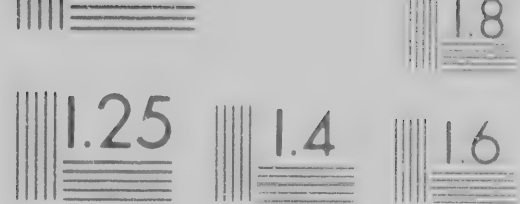
The measures adopted by the author of that piece, to alarm the people, and excite a spirit of dissention and discord, are in themselves so very extraordinary, and the facts referred to so totally void of the least colour of truth, as they stand in their connection, that a plain narrative of the true state of the matters he refers to, may be necessary to undeceive the judicious Freemen of the Colony, and expose the latent designs of that author, who covers himself under fictitious names and characters, that his person as well as his fallhoods may not be exposed to the just resentments of an abused and injur'd people. He begins with observing, that *the Susquehanna company have of late, so increased their numbers, that a vote of the assembly could not be obtained to exclude their members from voting in that very case in which they were immediately interested.*—As to the increase of their numbers in the Assembly of late, the author can have no authority for such assertion; as the numbers have been nearly the same for many years who have composed part of that house, and never amounted to one quarter of the house, of which number no time has been when part were not against the colony's extending their claim to those lands: And whenever that company have presented any memorial for a confirmation of their purchase made of the natives, of part of those lands, or for a quit-claim only, or for any other purpose whatever, all the proprietors in that purchase have withdrawn, and have not set or voted in any vote concerning it; but when any members of the assembly have mov'd for the consideration of some general question respecting the whole of the western lands, and not in particular affecting the Susquehanna purchase, the proprietors have voted, as they had good right, and can be no more affected than any other person in the colony, who has no other claim or particular interest to

priety be charged to their account. On the opinion of the most eminent lawyers in favor of our title, the assembly at the October, again took up the question in the lower house, Whether the assembly should support such claim to the western lands; and the division there appeared 34 in the negative, and 100 in the affirmative; on which a committee was appointed, taken indifferently from both houses, to consider and report the proper measures for the colony to pursue; which committee, among other things, to send commissioners to Pennsylvania, to endeavour a settlement of the lands without further expence; and that such measures be taken to preserve peace and good order, and punish vice and immorality among the people on those lands: and also every other measure of importance which has since been taken by the assembly, relative to that controversy, was also considered and accepted in the lower house, in as full a house as when the former measures were reported and concur'd in the upper house; and the report relative to sending commissioners was carried into execution, and the resolution for adjournment to be further consideration of the commissioners;—at the adjournment the commissioners having made their report, the assembly again took up the matter, and in the lower house not less than 125 members present, passed a bill erecting the lands which lay west of Delaware river and east of the line settled with Indians in 1763, into a county, and incorporated the same into a county, and invested that county with all the privileges which other towns by law have. This bill, after deliberation, was dissented to in the upper house, and a bill, constituting a town within our limits of Delaware river, to extend from a north and south line drawn at a certain distance west of a place called Wyoming, to the county of Litchfield: the division in the lower house, 64 members only in the affirmative. But as this was erecting and incorporating a county over part only of the lands

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of the assembly was never yet considered as a grant
of one foot of land to Mr. Haulard, but only that the
colony's claim should not be objected to any crown
grant he might obtain for the purposes mentioned in
his memorial: The memorial and resolve thereon I
intend to procure and publish hereafter, by which
every one must be convinced the above representation
is a just and true state of that case: Therefore every
one must, at first view, discover the falshood of the
author's assertion, "that the colony, *as such*, are not
*intitled to one foot of land east of Delaware river, if the
claim should be determined in their favour.*" This au-
thor tells us, the last three emissions of bills amount
to £.24000, that the taxes to sink those bills amount
to £.34000, and so a sum of £.10,000 is cover'd for
secret services. The amount of the three last emis-
sions I cannot certainly say, but suppose he is nearer
the truth than in any other of his assertions: this,
being true, the case stands thus;—Our general list
returned last October amounts to £.1,795 8 7 9 7,
the school monies paid annually at 40s. on the £1000
on the list, amount to about £.3591 15 3, which on
those three rates amount to £.10774 15 9, which
added to the amount of bills emitted, as by his ac-
count, makes £.34774 15 9; to which ought also
to be added the collectors fees and travelling expences
on those three rates, which on a medium can't fall
short of £.300; by which it appears that, de-
ducting the expences of collecting, and the school-
monies paid annually to the towns, the rates already
granted cannot sink the bills by more than £.1000;
that instead of reserving a sum for private services, the
colony will still be indebted about £.1000, if every far-
thing of the rates are applied to sink the bills and
pay the school monies. The Mason cause, so called,
was about 70 years in dispute from the first commis-
sioners court to the close, the expence of which,
through all its various forms of litigation, does not
exceed £.9000, as the treasury accounts fully evince.
That this case can ever be protracted to that length
of time, or can incur half the expence, cannot be
believ'd by any person who will pay the least atten-
tion to the case: for in this case the cause is deter-
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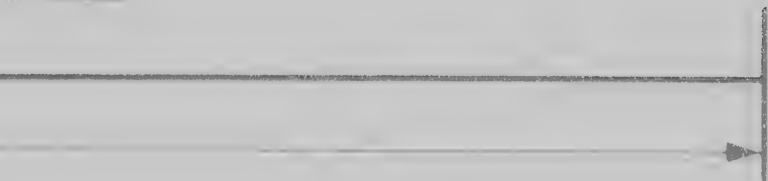


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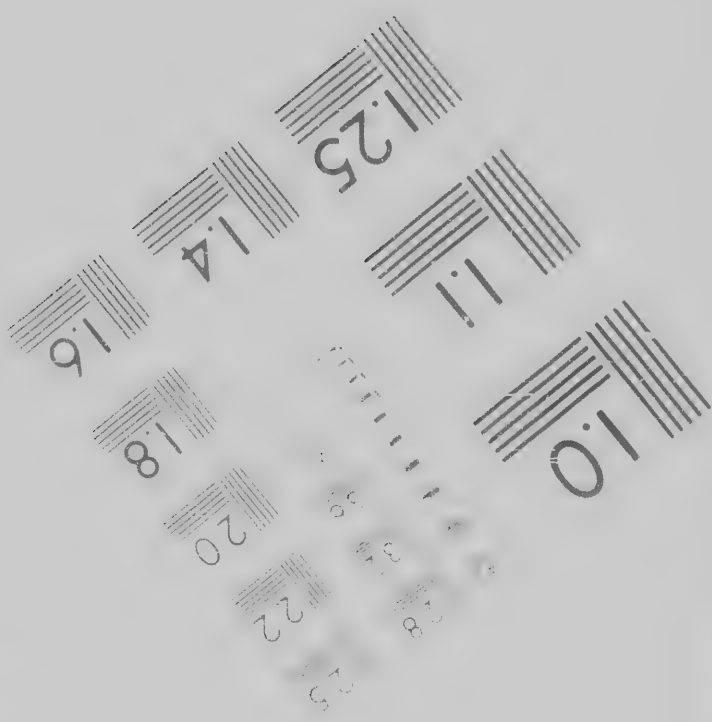
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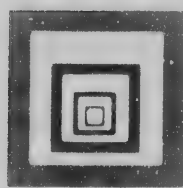


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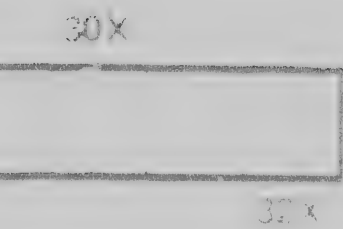


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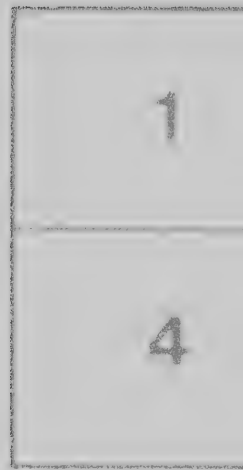
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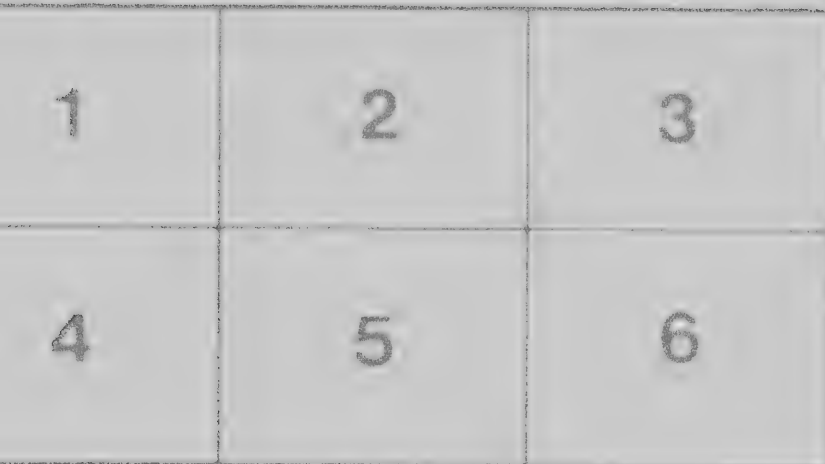
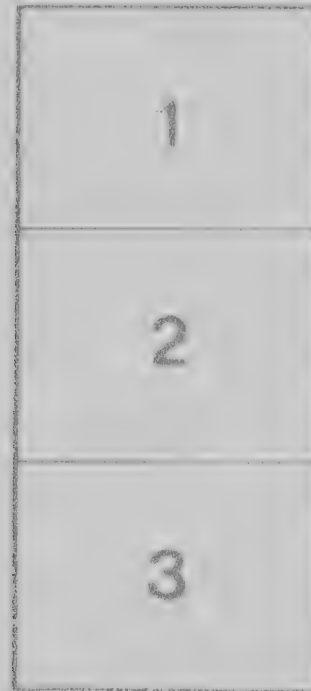


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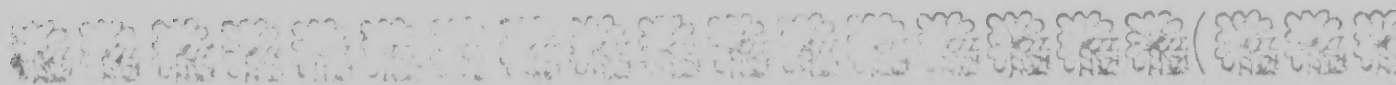
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illustrent la méthode.



bill, which, on the proprietors' motion, was withdrawn, and have not set or voted in any vote concerning it; but when any members of the assembly have mov'd for the consideration of some general question respecting the whole of the western lands, and not in particular affecting the Susquehanna purchase, the proprietors have voted, as they had good right, and can be no more affected than any other person in the colony; as they neither gain a particular interest to themselves, nor are deprived of any imaginary interest they may suppose themselves possess'd of, by the purchase of the native-right to some small part of those lands: & no person, (except in one instance) have ever made any objection to the propriety of such their voting. In the last session of assembly, a member, who was also a proprietor in that purchase (though a most zealous opponent to the colony's title, and an avowed enemy to the interest of the company) did move to have the proprietors in that purchase excluded on the vote; and said, no honest man, who was a member of the company, could in conscience sit and vote upon that question; and that if any one should attempt to do so, he ought to be excluded by the house: but the very worthy member was so thoroughly convinced that there was no propriety in his objection, that in less than five minutes afterward, he himself, together with several other of the Susquehanna proprietors, voted against the government's doing any thing in respect to the jurisdiction over the people settled on those lands, or taking any further effectual measures concerning it:—The vote, he mentions, to send a state of the case for the opinion of persons learned in the law, he also says was obtained by the members of that company.—This is a fact most daringly false; as 'tis a truth known to every person who was at that time a member of the assembly, and which no one who has the least degree of veracity will contradict, that this expedient was proposed by those who were ever enemies to our title; and at a time when the colony denied even a quit-claim deed of those lands to the company on their application: The Susquehanna company in general oppos'd the measure, as being designed to defeat their obtaining their proposed grant from the assembly; but every person who was against the colony's claim, supported and urg'd this expedient, and finally carried a vote by a small majority, of which I believe not three of the proprietors made a part:—no man, therefore, can with any pro-

bill, constituting a town within our jurisdiction, on the Delaware river, to extend from a north and south line drawn at west of a place called Wyoming, to the county of Litchfield: this bill, in the lower house, 64 members only voted for it. But as this was erecting and incorporating a town to extend over part only of the lands of the colony, the house had before erected into a corporation, and invested with much greater powers, a town, which may be a gross perversion of truth to suppose that the exercise of jurisdiction over those people was granted by a small majority when most of the proprietors returned to their homes.

The Susquehanna purchase of the colony extends 120 miles from east to west, from the northern bounds of which, to the western extremity, to Mr. Penn, is about 100 or 120 miles. The breadth of the colony there is about 100 miles. The grant, which this author says Mr. Hassard, begins 100 miles west of the eastern boundaries of Pennsylvania, and extends to the western boundaries, that if we admit Mr. Hassard to be in the right of his grant, and the Susquehanna company's claim, there remains an extent of country of about 100 miles in length and about 70 or 80 in breadth. No person has any pretence of claim to any part of this colony. That Mr. Hassard has the least color of title to the lands under the grant of this colony, is chimerical, and not believed by the colony. Mr. Hassard's heirs, nor by any other person, have any thing of the matter. In 1755, a bill was applied to the assembly, shewing that the colony apply to his Majesty for a new grant of the Appalachian mountains, (which extend from N. E. from near the river Mississippi, and perhaps further north) and beyond the Mississippi river, praying that the proposed government should be likely to grant to this colony might not be obtained. In any part of it extend so as to include the lands before granted to the government of this colony: To this the assembly assented. Mr. Hassard liv'd about 100 years, and took any further measures about it. No person to the crown has ever been made



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believed by any person who will pay the least atten-
tion to the case : for in this case the cause is deter-
mined on the first application for commissioners : for
if commissioners are appointed to settle the bounda-
ries between the colony & province, 'twill be on the
ground that they bound one on the other ; and with-
out it no commissioners can or will be appointed :
therefore, if commissioners should be appointed, it
certainly follows that we have lands west of De-
laware river, otherwise the province can, in no part
of it, join our colony, and so no ground can be
to affix the boundaries where one or the other shall
be limited in respect to the other. Therefore the
greatest part of the expence of the suit is in the first
application for commissioners.

The foregoing is a just representation of the ma-
terial facts referred to in his appeal to the public ;
for the truth of which I appeal to the memory of the
members present at the several sessions of assembly
when those matters have been under consideration, &
to the public records of the colony. If this represen-
tation is just, as I know it will appear to be, the o-
ther can be no other than a gross and wilful violation
of the truth, with design to serve party purposes, and
to stir up a spirit of discord among the freemen of
the colony : as he seeks a refuge or flies for his de-
fence, it can be on no ground but that he is an enemy
to truth, and it cannot serve him a purpose. He
will avow those things for truth, for his own sake, and
name to his publications, and I in return, will give
him mine ; and we may then be tried by the impar-
tial ; and he who is guilty of misrepresentation will
justly fall under the censure of the public, and
candid enquirer. Be not therefore misled and de-
ceived by the specious clamors of persons or designing
men, to adopt such measures as will end in your
ruin, and destroy the government you would desire to
support. Examine for yourselves, take nothing on
credit ; the truth can be discovered ; and if you ex-
amine, I know I shall be justified.

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